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Centre-State Financial Relationship

2338. DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether the Union Government is considering an examination of the existing Centre-State financial relationship to enable the States to meet their constitutional obligation under "State List"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): The recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission are presently under examination by a Sub-Committee of the Inter-State Council.

Relief to Kashmiri Migrants in NOIDA

2339. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Kashmiri migrants residing in NOIDA are being paid relief amount of only Rs. 750 per month while those residing at Delhi and Jammu are being paid Rs. 1,500 per month;

(b) if so, the reasons for the discrimination made towards the migrants residing in NOIDA, which is a satellite town of Delhi and where the cost of living is almost the same as at Delhi;

(c) whether the discrimination will be removed and migrants residing at NOIDA will be paid a relief of Rs. 1,500 to bring it on par with that being paid at Delhi;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government will ensure that the relief amounts sanctioned to the migrants will be distributed to them regularly and long delays on the disbursal are eliminated to help the migrants who are undergoing untold suffering?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Different States/Union Territories have different scales of relief sanctioned, keeping in view their financial resources and the local needs of the migrants. The Government of Uttar Pradesh is making a one time ex-gratia payment @Rs 1,500 per family for the purchase of items of daily requirement like utensils, etc. and a monthly cash assistance of Rs. 750 per month per family. The State Government has been advised to make payment of relief regularly.

Sealing of Nepal Border

2340. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Kashmir militants had been using Nepal to visit their contacts in Pakistan as travel to Nepal from India was much easier for making onward air journey to Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in that regard;

(c) whether Uttar Pradesh Government had been asked to seal off Nepal Borders; and

(d) if so, whether Uttar Pradesh Government have taken any steps to seal the Nepal border ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have reports that Pak ISI has been helping Kashmiri militants in using Nepal for infiltration/exfiltration, visit and reinforce their contacts in Pakistan.

(b) to (d) We have sensitised the Government of Nepal on this issue. Police stations, outposts and immigration checkposts on Indo-Nepal border have been alerted. Border security and policing have also been tightened all along the border. An anti-terrorists checkpost has also been estabilshed by the Government of India near Sonauli in the Maharajganj district of Uttar Pradesh.

Enhancement of Destitute Grant

2341. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2888 given in Rajya Sabha on 18th August, 1993 and state :

(a) whether the proposal received by the Ministry from the Delhi Administration for enhancing the destitute grant from Rs 150 to Rs. 300 has been accepted;

(b) if so, by when it is going to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?